

June 18, 2010

The Honorable Ted Poe
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gary C. Peters
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressmen Poe and Peters,

As the voice of 157 Jewish federations and more than 400 independent communities across North America, we greatly appreciate your support for a strong US-Israel relationship and salute your leadership in crafting the bipartisan letter supporting Israel's right to self defense.

In the wake of the recent flotilla incident, where Israel's foes, under the cloak of a presumed humanitarian mission attacked Israeli soldiers, and manipulated world reaction to embolden their efforts to challenge Israel's legitimate right to defend its territory, Israel needs support from its allies more than ever. Therefore, we appreciate your efforts to urge the United States to continue to actively defend Israel in international bodies, such as the United Nations Security Council, and in the international community as a whole.

As you know, the State of Israel faces immense challenges in ensuring the safety and security of its people from the existential threat posed by Iran, defending its borders against terrorist threats from Hamas and Hezbollah, and fighting efforts across the globe to delegitimize its existence as a peaceful, democratic state.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and the entire Congress on these issues of mutual concern, and thank you again for working to strengthen the unbreakable bond between the United States and Israel.

Sincerely,



William C. Daroff
Vice President for Public Policy &
Director of the Washington Office



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